North Sea Reporter

News & Analysis – keeping you informed

14 October 2026
Issue 903

www.klenergypublishing.com

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Equinor targets fast-track subsea tieback for Oseberg area Grimsnes

Equinor is targeting a fast-track development after making an oil and gas discovery containing up to 50 million barrels of oil equivalent in the Grimsnes prospect in PL190 in the Oseberg area of the Norwegian North Sea.

The Norwegian state-controlled operator, in a statement today (Wednesday), said that exploration well 30/8-7S was drilled with the *Deepsea Bergen* semi-submersible in 96 metres of water in a location about 15 km southwest of the Oseberg South platform, in block 30/9, and 20 km south of the Tune discovery, also in 30/8.

Grimsnes is estimated to contain 19-50 million boe recoverable (3-8 MMcm) and Equinor confirmed it wants to move forward rapidly with a subsea tieback development of the discovery.

"We plan to quickly tie the discovery back to existing subsea facilities and produce the volumes through the Oseberg South platform," said Equinor senior vice-president for Exploration and Production West Frode Skarstein.

According to the Norwegian Offshore Directorate, the Grimsnes well encountered a combined oil and gas column totalling 54 metres in a primary reservoir target in a Middle Jurassic Tarbert formation. The total thickness of the Tarbert interval was 264 metres, 111 metres of which was sandstone with moderate to good reservoir properties, the regulator added.

In line with its broader strategy to pursue rapid, standardised and cheaper subsea project solutions, Equinor said it expects the Grimsnes partnership to take a final investment decision on its development as soon as next summer, leading on to potential first production within three years.

As part of the effort to support faster project execution, Equinor said it wants to plan development concepts to a greater extent before exploration drilling is even carried out and it says that Grimsnes will "most likely be developed with two or three wells in a standard four-slot template". *(Continued on page 2)*